

REMARKS

Claims 51-57 have been cancelled. Claim 1 has been amended to clarify the subject matter regarded as the invention. Claims 1-4, 6- 7, 9-11, and 13-14 are pending.

Claim 51 has been rejected under 35 USC 101. Claim 51 has been cancelled.

Claims 1-4, 6- 7, 9-11, and 13-14 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a).

The rejection is respectfully traversed. With respect to claim 1, Barber teaches allowing licenses for a computer program to be available for use at each of a plurality of nodes of a network. Griswold describes a license management system that records the use of a licensed product and controls its use in accordance with the terms of the license. Neither Barber nor Griswold teaches a license string, “wherein the data encoded to generate the license string comprises a license data and a validation data and verifying the license string further includes (i) decoding the license string to obtain the license data and the validation data, (ii) computing a generated validation data based at least in part on at least a portion of the decoded license data, and (iii) comparing the decoded validation data with the generated validation data,” as recited in claim 1 as amended. Support for the amendment may be found, without limitation, at lines 3-15 in page 28 of the specification. Thus, claim 1 is believed to be allowable.

Claims 2-4, 6-7, 9-11, and 13-14 depend from claim 1 and are believed to be allowable for the same reasons described above.

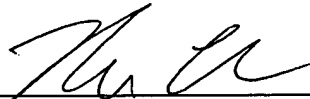
Claims 1-4, 6-7, 9-11 and 13-14 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,314,408 B1 in view of Barber. A terminal disclaimer has been submitted to overcome the rejection.

Reconsideration of the application and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested based on the preceding remarks. If at any time the Examiner believes that an interview would be helpful, please contact the undersigned.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: _____

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